multinational corporation?

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: There are three speakers more who have to finish after lunch. We can now adjourn for lunch and conclude the debate after lunch.

The House stands adjourned till 2.30 P.M.

The House then adjourned for lunch at fortyfour minutes past one of the clock.

The House reassembled after lunch at thirty-two minutes past two of the clock, The Deputy Chairman in the Chair.

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Now, the Budget (Railways), 1989-90. Yes, Mr. Mahabir Prasad.

THE BUDGET (RAILWAYS) 1989-90

रेल मंत्रालय में उप मंत्री (श्री महाबीर प्रसाद): माननीया उप सभापति महोदया, मैं आपकी अनुमति से 1989-90 के वर्ष के लिए रेलवे के संबंध में भारत सरकार की अनुमानित आय तथा व्यय का एक विवरण (हिन्दी तथा अंग्रेजी में) सभा पटल पर रखता हूं।

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Now, we shall continue with the discussion on the Bhopal Gas issue. Yes, Mr. Chitta Basu.

SHRI K. G. MAHESWARAPPA (Karnataka): Madam, this is a politically baised Budget and several States have been neglected. As a protest against this, Madam, I walk out.

SHRI JAGESH DESAI (Maharashtra): Even before reading it? Even without reading it?

SHRI K. G. MAHESWARAPPA: I have already read it.

(At this stage, some hon. Members left the Chamber.)

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Let Mr. Chitta Basu start and those who want to walk out can do so.

SHORT DURATION DISCUSSION

Re: Settlement arrived at between the Government of India and the Union Carbide Corpn. regarding payment of compensation to the victims of the Bhopal gas tragedy. — (Contd.)

SHRI CHITTA BASU (West Bengal): Madam, I want to begin with, use some language in giving expression to my views a little charitably. Even becoming charitable, Madam, please allow me to say that the manner in which the Government has dealt with the entire position of compensaion for the Bhopal victims is nothing short of betrayal—betrayal of the interests of the victims, and the manner is nothing but despicable. This is a further example of the Government of India as to how blatantly and brazenly the Government can become an agent to subserve a multinational corporation. This is a blatant surrender and complete sell-out not only of the interests of the victims but it is a capitulation of the national interests and it is a national humiliation. Everybody should hang his head in shame as to how the Government can barter away the interest of the country. Unfortunately, Madam, the highest judiciary of our country is involved in this sordid episode. I was mentioning about the manner in which the Government of India tackled the entire issue. I am inclined to comment that the Government of India has taken upon itself the responsibility to save Carbide' operations. The entire exercise was; to save the Corporation from the wrath of the people. Much of my burden has been lessened by the previous speaker, Shri Chaturanan Mishra, who cited several examples as to the failures of the Government in the matter of the defence